

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, March 22, 1892, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. Florence, March 22nd, 1892. My dear Alec:

You will have to put up with this odd sheet as I am out of paper.

I think Elsie's letter will reassure you as no words of mine could. A child who can play hide and seek in this way can't be very ill or very weak! The diphtheria is all over now I think, the doctor has made only one visit today, and says she need not be waked tonight. She does not seem to have lost strength at all, and I can't see why we cannot sail April 16th, but the doctor won't give an opinion, and as I cannot wait indefinitely I am going to inquire about the steamer from Genoa April 20. Elsie says that Mr. Goods sails that day, so I might have let Mr. McCurdy return. I shall not feel as badly about it however if he finds your apparatus. You see as it turns out, I haven't needed Mr. McCurdy, but I might have and with such a dangerous and treacherous illness as diphtheria beginning, I could not let him go out of reach. Please say you think I did right under the circumstances.

Daisy is still at Leghorn and the doctor won't let her come back until the end of the week, so she is going to Siena on Tuesday, so as to see something of Italy while we are waiting, and to keep out of harm's way.

Our lovely days are over and done with for the present, but I am sure tomorrow will be sunny again.

I had letters from Papa and Miss True yesterday, and evidently you are all right, and it was absurd for me to have been so upset, but I was really nearer hysterics than ever

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before in my 2 life I begin to think I am about as poor a creature as ever there was. Elsie's "Mamma's uncomfortable redness" is nothing but sunburn.

My own darling I hope you will right Helen Keller, you are a perfect Knight errant going about to succor distressed damsels, and I love you. I know just how that poor Miss Sullivan must feel, and how great a load you must have taken from her heart. Haven't you helped me just so many a time and oft.

Lovingly ever yours, Mabel.